Application Serial No.: 10/743,809

REMARKS

Claim 20 has been amended. Claims 10-13, 18 and 21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. After entry of the above amendments, Claims 1-9, 14-17, 19 and 20 remain pending.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication the Claims 1-9, 14-17 and 19 are allowed and that Claim 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 20 has been rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,374,066 to Crivello et al. (hereinafter referred to as "<u>Crivello</u>"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 20 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent Claim 21.

As set forth above, it has been indicated that Claim 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 20 is allowable.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Application Serial No.: 10/743,809

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

December 12, 2006

Date

Christopher W. Raimund Registration No. 47,258

P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 Telephone No. (202) 326-0300 Facsimile No. (202) 326-0778

23552

Patent & Trademark Office